

ABSTRACT

An apparatus and method used to apply a self-adherent strip of bio-compatible, staple line reinforcement material onto a working surface of a surgical stapler. The apparatus effectively contains and supports reinforcement material during sterilization and shipment. At the point of use, the apparatus provides a simple method for applying the reinforcement material to a variety of staplers. Once the reinforcement material is applied, no excess material remains attached to the stapler thus post-attachment removal of excess material is avoided. The apparatus is simple to manufacture, accommodates a wide variety of reinforcement material shapes and configurations, allows for accurate sizing of the reinforcement material to a variety of stapler jaws, and provides a very low profile package to reduce packaging, shipping, and storage costs.